

A DECREASE IN BANK CLEARINGS

Salt Lake Is With the "Great Majority."

PERCENTAGE QUITE LARGE

THERE ARE SOME, HOWEVER,
WHO GO US ONE BETTER.

Dun's Hopeful View of the Future
Tinged With a Vein of Sadness—
Railroad Earnings Begin to Show
a Slight Improvement—Failures
on the Increase—Cattle Slightly
on the Improve—Other Live Stock
Markets Fair.

New York, Feb. 19.—Among the bank
clearings totals at the principal cities for
the week ended February 15, 1897, with
comparisons as telegraphed to Brand-
streets, are the following:

	Amount, Inc. Dec.
New York	\$183,255,207
Boston	85,459,654
Chicago	65,340,125
Philadelphia	53,303,000
St. Louis	27,863,227
Baltimore	12,245,000
San Francisco	12,341,000
San Antonio	12,341,000
Minneapolis	12,341,000
St. Paul	12,341,000
Portland, Or.	12,341,000
Low Angeles	12,341,000
Seattle	12,341,000
Spokane	12,341,000
Total United States	\$2,414,000,000
Outside New York	\$4,469,000,000
Total for the Dominion of Canada	\$1,021,000,000

DUN IS HOPEFUL.
There is a Dark Tint in the Picture
He Paints, However.

New York, Feb. 19.—R. G. Dun & Co.
will say tomorrow in their weekly re-
view of trade:

A large increase in the iron and steel
business on account of sales covering
eight to 12 months' production of the
largest works, a better demand for
woolens goods, and slightly better
prices for wheat, cotton, wool and iron
and a money market well adapted to
encourage liberal purchases against fu-
ture improvement in business, have
rendered the past week more hopeful
than any other since early in Novem-
ber. The heavy excess of merchandise
exports over imports in January, the
continuance of exchange rates showing
that Europe is still largely indebted to
this country on current account and
the prospect that congress will ad-
journ without any disturbing action,
all have their favorable influence on
the money market and upon future
undertakings.

In nearly every branch the great
iron and steel industry feels the up-
ward impulse acquired by purchases of
steel rails, said to be 500,000 tons
from each of the Illinois Steel company
and from the Carnegie company, be-
side some from other companies. The
part as low as \$15 per ton, about 100-
000 to foreign purchasers at \$15 to \$18,
but all recent sales at \$20 at eastern
and \$21 at western mills. Nearly all
the great railroads of the country have
seized the opportunity to supply them-
selves with rails for one or two years'
requirements. These enormous orders
have advanced the price of steel rails
only 15 cents per ton, with Grey Forge
a shade lower, and no change appears
in finished products, although prices
are unchanged in price with good de-
mand, and market has been active.
The Bar association no longer con-
trols anything, and iron bars are
quoted at \$1.05 per 100 pounds, while
steel bars are quoted at 95 cents per
100 pounds. Structural iron is also
steady, although 100,000 to 150,000 tons
are said to be required in New York
alone this year, and American tin
plates are still selling at \$2.25, which
is 75 cents less than the price for
foreign. The sales of wools have sharply
declined, amounting to 7,400,000 pounds
for the week, against 8,157,000 for the
previous week, but owing to the heavy
transactions early in the month the
sales for three weeks have been 23,310-
000 pounds, against 12,168,700 pounds
last year. The larger market have ac-
crued full supplies for the present,
and at any advance of prices they ap-
pear ready to drop out of the market.
The demand for woolen goods does not
seem to have advanced materially, and
no quotable change in prices has ap-
peared during the week.

The heavy exports in January, fol-
lowing the unprecedented excess of ex-
ports over imports of merchandise in
the four previous months, are largely
due to the fact that neither the wheat
nor the cotton markets have been ma-
terially controlled by speculation.
Wheat dropped to 80.5, but rose to
82.25, with no important impulse ex-
cept the conviction that the recent
prices have been low enough. The At-
lantic exports, four included, were
only 1,235,375 bushels for the week,
against 2,310,304 for last year, but for
three weeks have been 5,990,471 bushels,
against 4,448,129 last year. The wheat
receipts are still small, and the
week, only 1,507,845 bushels, against 2-
415,558 last year, and for the past three
weeks only 4,699,210 bushels, against
8,329,773 last year. Meanwhile the west-
ern receipts of corn have been well
nigh double last year's, and for three
weeks the Atlantic exports have been
6,317,214 bushels, against 3,234,859 last
year. Evidently this movement is im-
placing many million bushels of wheat
in foreign consumption. Futures at
this season not count for much in
cotton, though large supplies and a
mildened domestic demand on account
of the partial closing of many mills
have materially influenced the market.
Prices have been comparatively steady,
middling uplands declining to 1, but
recovering an eighth.

The volume of business is not accu-
rately represented by clearing house ex-
changes, owing to the extra holiday
this year at some commercial centers.
But the daily average appears to be 3
per cent smaller than last year. The
railroad earnings begin to show im-
provement, being 8 per cent greater
than last year for the second week of
February.

Failures for the past week have
been 200 in the United States, against
200 last year, and 58 in Canada, against
66 last year.

ON WALL STREET.

The Day Proves Just a Trifle Duller
Than Ordinarily.

New York, Feb. 19.—Money easy at
1 1/2 per cent. Last loan at 1 1/2 and closing
1 1/2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper
3 per cent.
Mexican dollars 50 1/2. Sterling ex-
change is firm with actual business in
bankers' bills at \$4.55-4.57 1/2 for 60
days and \$4.57-4.57 1/2 for demand.
Postpaid rates \$4.55-4.57 1/2.
Commercial bills \$4.53-4.54 1/2.
Bonds: Government steady; state
quiet; railroad easier.
The market was duller than ever to-
day, the transactions, 104,123 shares,
reaching the smallest total for any day
this week. The business was almost
entirely for professional account. In
the early trading, the tendency of
prices was downward, owing to the re-
ceipt of lower quotations from Lin-
coln, where securities were depressed
by warlike news from Crete.

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